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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2018-32

Difenoconazole

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on dried shelled pea and bean, except soybean (crop subgroup 6C) to the product label of Exempla Fungicide, containing technical grade difenoconazole and azoxystrobin, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Exempla Fungicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 32015.

The evaluation of this difenoconazole application indicated that the end-use product has value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for difenoconazole is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I. The currently established MRLs for azoxystrobin are sufficient to cover the residues resulting from these uses and are therefore unaffected by this MRL action.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRL, to replace the MRL already established for difenoconazole, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Difenoconazole

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Difenoconazole	1-[[2-[2-chloro-4-(4-chlorophenoxy)phenyl]-4-methyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-yl]methyl]-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole	0.2[2]	Dried shelled pea and bean, except soybean (crop subgroup 6C)

[1] ppm = parts per million

[2] This MRL is proposed to replace the currently established MRL of 0.03 ppm for all crops included in crop subgroup 6C.

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides section of the Canada.ca website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The MRL proposed for difenoconazole in Canada is the same as the corresponding American tolerance as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there is no Codex MRL[1] listed for difenoconazole for these commodities on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Index webpage.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for difenoconazole up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database .

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

Residue data for difenoconazole in dried beans and peas were submitted to support the domestic use of Exempla Fungicide on dried shelled pea and bean, except soybean (crop subgroup 6C).

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for difenoconazole was based upon the submitted field trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRL for crops belonging to crop subgroup 6C.

Table A1 Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the MRL

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Lowest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)	Highest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)
Dry beans	Ground foliar / 514-522	13-15	<0.01	0.09
Dry peas		13-18	<0.01	0.03

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, the MRL as proposed in Table 1 is recommended to cover residues of difenoconazole. Residues of difenoconazole in these crop commodities at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.